



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SANDERS ANNOUNCES HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDS TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

San Diego -- Mayor Jerry Sanders announced that a Federal Homeland Security Grant Program, the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), has awarded more than \$300,000 in funding to six local private non profit organizations for them to use in improving the security posture of their facilities against potential terrorism.

The following San Diego private non profit organizations received \$320,885: **The San Diego Natural History Museum; Congregation Beth Israel of San Diego, Inc.; Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS Family Campus; Chabad Center of University City; Chabad of Poway; and United Jewish Federation of San Diego County.**

“The City of San Diego Office of Homeland Security was a strong advocate and active participant in the entire process that has brought these funds to San Diego,” said Sanders. “Their efforts are in large part responsible for these awards.”

Eligibility was determined by a team of representatives from each of the four eligible urban areas in California: San Diego, Anaheim, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The State of California scored all applications received, and recommended funding for applicant organizations based on Department of Homeland Security grant guidance and standards provided in a request for proposals published by the state.

Matthew Bettenhausen, director of California's Office of Homeland Security, expressed his support for the Homeland Security Assistance Program for Non-Profit Organizations and reiterated the importance of a multi-level approach to homeland security. “On behalf of Governor Schwarzenegger, I am very happy to announce the awarding of these grants to several San Diego area non profit organizations.” Homeland security is about working to protect people and places vulnerable to terrorist attack. As we have learned from attacks all over the world, our enemies seek out these vulnerable targets without conscience. These grants are part of our overall strategy to protect California's people and critical infrastructure.

For the past three years, the Federal Government, through the UASI Program, has made grant funding available to selected large metropolitan areas.

Questions or comments should be directed to City of San Diego Office of Homeland Security Program Manager William Norris at (619) 533-6762 or WNorris@sandiego.gov.

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